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MONITORING OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON CO-ORDINATION FOR 1990

Note by the Chairman

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I. PREPARATIONS FOR THE SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF 1990 OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION

1. The Organizational Committee, at its meeting held at United Nations Headquarters, from 12 to 15 February 1990, identified a provisional list of items for consideration by the Administrative Committee on Coordination at its second regular session of 1990, which will be held in New York on 22 and 23 October 1990. The Committee, at its present meeting, will make the necessary arrangements for the discussions to be held by ACC and draw up the provisional agenda for the session, which would include the items set out below.

A. Development and international economic cooperation

(see ACC/1990/1, sect. I.A, item 1)

2. At its second regular session of 1990, ACC will be apprised of the results of recent intergovernmental meetings, including those of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, the World Summit for Children, the Interim Committee of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the Joint World Bank and IMF Development Committee. In addition, ACC will be informed of the latest developments with regard to the preparation of the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade and of the status of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations.

3. Under this item, ACC will review the latest developments in the area of debt. ACC will have before it, as background documents, a synopsis of the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on debt, Mr. Bettino Craxi, and the report of the Secretary-General on debt submitted to the forty-fifth session of the United Nations General Assembly.

4. ACC will consider the implications of the most recent changes in East-West relations. For this purpose it will have before it a paper prepared by the Economic Commission for Europe which will summarize the most recent developments. At its first regular session of 1990, ACC had a wide-ranging exchange of views of the impact of the recent changes in East-West relations. The Economic and Social Council, by its decision 1990/205, decided to convene a special meeting on 4 and 5 July 1991 to discuss the impact of the recent evolution of East-West relations on the growth of the world economy, in particular, on the economic growth and development of the developing countries, as well as on international economic cooperation. The Council, by resolution 1990/68, called upon all appropriate organs, organizations, bodies and programmes of the United Nations system to contribute to the success of the special high-level meeting of the Council in 1991 and invited all Member States that are in a position to do so to be represented at the ministerial level.

5. ACC may also wish to consider the implications of the crisis in the Gulf for the world economy, especially the impact on the developing countries.

B. Review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990

(see ACC/1990/1, sect. I.A, item 4)

6. In 1989 ACC took note of the outcome of the mid-term review of the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 and reaffirmed its commitment to its full implementation (decision 1989/6). At its second regular session of 1990, ACC will review progress being made by United Nations organizations, in collaboration with African Governments, in the implementation of the Programme of Action. The General Assembly, by resolution 43/27, decided to conduct a final review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Recovery and Development 1986-1990 at its forty-sixth session in 1991. ACC will have before it an analytical paper on the implementation of the Programme of Action prepared by the Economic Commission for Africa.

C. Environment-related questions

(see ACC/1990/1, sect. I.A, item 3 (a))

1. United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

7. ACC will review preparations for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, to be held in 1992. It will be informed of the outcome of the recent session of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, which met in Nairobi from 6 to 31 August 1990.

2. World climate change

(see ACC/1990/1, sect. I.A, item 3 (c))

8. ACC will review the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the preparations for the Second World Climate Conference, to be held at Geneva from 29 October to 7 November 1990. For its discussion of this item ACC will have before it a paper prepared by the World Meteorological Organization.

3. Annual report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme

(see ACC/1990/1, sect. I.A, item 3 (d))

9. At its second regular session of 1990, ACC will have before it for consideration the 1990 annual draft report of ACC to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), prepared in accordance with past practice by the Executive Director of UNEP in consultation with the designated officials on environmental matters.

D. Operational activities for development, including support costs

(see ACC/1990/1, sect. I.A, item 2 (c))

10. At its first regular session of 1990, ACC discussed recent intergovernmental deliberations and decisions on operational activities and adopted a statement on support costs (ACC decision 1990/4). The Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1990, welcomed the constructive statements on agency support costs made by representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and endorsed decision 1990/26 concerning successor arrangements for agency support costs adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on 22 June 1990 (Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/81). ACC, at its current session, will resume discussion in the light of these decisions and will have before it the conclusions of the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Operational Activities) (CCSQ (OPS)) emanating from its second regular session of 1990, to be held in New York from 2 to 4 October 1990.

E. Questions related to personnel

(see ACC/1990/1, sect. I.B, item 3)

11. By decision 1987/4, ACC decided that an item on questions related to personnel should be included on the agenda of each of its regular sessions. ACC will consider issues arising from the seventy-third session of the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Personnel and General Administrative Questions) (CCAQ (PER)), which met from 2 to 20 July 1990. ACC will have before it a preliminary discussion paper on the functioning of the International Civil Service Commission, requested in its decision 1990/8, and a report on travel standards, requested by ACC in decision 1990/9. Both papers have been prepared by CCAQ (PER).

F. Progress reports

1. Prevention and control of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)

(see ACC/1990/1, sect. II.A)

12. ACC, at its second regular session of 1990, will be informed by the World Health Organization of developments in the global AIDS pandemic. The work of the inter-agency advisory group established to facilitate the effective coordination of activities of the United Nations system in support of the WHO global strategy for the prevention and control of AIDS will be described. ACC will at the same time be informed by the United Nations of the activities of the steering committee established by the Secretary-General to coordinate United Nations activities in support of the global strategy.

2. International conference on nutrition

13. By decision 1989/25, ACC welcomed the joint initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) to convene an international conference on nutrition in late 1992 or early 1993 to focus world-wide attention on this important aspect of development. The Committee will be informed of the current status of preparations for the Conference.

II. LIST OF ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE

14. In addition to preparing for the discussions to be held by the Administrative Committee on Coordination at its second regular session of 1990, the Organizational Committee will consider the issues set out below, in the context of its responsibility for monitoring the programme of work of ACC.

A. Preparations for the twenty-fifth series of Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination

(see ACC/1990/1, sect. I.A, item 7)

15. The twenty-fifth series of Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC) and the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) will take place in New York immediately after the second regular session of ACC for 1990. The two topics to be considered at the Joint Meetings are natural disaster reduction and improvement of coordination in the United Nations system. The United Nations, in consultation with the organizations of the system, has prepared background papers on these two topics for the Joint Meetings. The Joinc Meetings will also consider a report prepared by the ACC Secretariat on the implementation of the recommendations of the twenty-fourth

series of Joint Meetings of CPC and ACC and a prototype of the ACC annual overview report. The section of the ACC annual overview report dealing with programmes and resources of United Nations organizations has been developed by the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Programme Matters) (CCSQ (PROG)) and the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Financial and Budgetary Questions) (CCAQ (FB)). The Organizational Committee will review final arrangements for the conduct of the Joint Meetings.

B. Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit

(see ACC/1991/1, sect. I.C, item 2)

16. At its meeting in February 1990, the Organizational Committee took note of the work programme of the Joint Inspection Unit for 1990 and the nucleus of its work programme for the period 1991-1992. In 1990 it will be necessary to prepare joint ACC comments on JIU reports and studies. At the present meeting draft comments on the following report will be considered: "From the optical disc pilot system at the United Nations Office at Geneva to an optical disc system for the United Nations" (JIU/REP/89/11).

17. Draft comments on "Practices and procedures aimed at a more equitable geographical distribution of sources of procurement for technical cooperation projects" (JIU/REP/89/8) and "Human resource development through technical cooperation" (JIU/REP/89/10) will be considered by CCSQ (OPS) at its second regular session of 1990.

C. Matters arising from the reports of subsidiary bodies of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and from ad hoc inter-agency meetings convened under its auspices

(see ACC/1990/1, sect. III)

18. The Organizational Committee, on behalf of ACC, will review the reports of the following subsidiary bodies:

(a) Task Force on Rural Development, eighteenth meeting, 2-4 May 1990 (ACC/1990/PG/2);

(b) Task Force on Science and Technology for Development, eleventh session, 7-9 May 1990 (ACC/1990/PG/5);

(c) Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Working Group on Demographic Estimates and Projections, sixteenth session, 6-8 June 1990 (ACC/1990/PG/4);

(d) Subcommittee on Statistical Activities, twenty-fourth session, 18-22 June 1990) (ACC/1990/PG/6);

(e) Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Programme Matters), 11-13 July 1990 (ACC/1990/9);

(f) Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Personnel and General Administrative Questions), seventy-third session, 2-27 July 1990 (ACC/1990/10);

(g) Subcommittee on Nutrition, seventeenth session, 24-26 July 1990 (ACC/1990/PG/10);

(h) Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Financial and Budgetary Questions), seventy-third session, 10-14 September 1990 (ACC/1990/12);

(i) Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Meeting on Coordination in Matters of International Drug Abuse Control, 12-14 September 1990 (ACC/1990/PG/7);

(j) Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities, 26-28 September 1990 (ACC/1990/PG/9);

(k) Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Operational Activities), second regular session, 2-4 October 1990 (ACC/1990/14);

(l) Intersecretariat Group for Water Resources, eleventh session, 3-5 October 1990 (ACC/1990/PG/11).

D. Review of the role and functioning of the Administrative Committee on Coordination

19. At its informal meeting on 19 July 1990, the Organizational Committee had a preliminary review of the structure and functions of the subsidiary machinery of ACC. The Chairman will brief the Committee on the outcome of the informal meeting and the Committee will take up the various issues agreed at the informal meeting. A note by the Chairman will also summarize the issues to be addressed. Among these is the request that the Ad Hoc Meeting on Women become a standing body.

E. Inter-agency cooperation in the audio-visual field

20. In the statement adopted in decision 1989/30, ACC requested that an assessment of the scope of inter-agency cooperation in the audio-visual field be prepared for its consideration. Such an assessment was carried out by JUNIC at its sixteenth session. The Committee, on behalf of ACC, will be briefed on the recommendations and conclusions of JUNIC regarding inter-agency cooperation in the audio-visual field.

F. Organizational questions

1. Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 1990

21. The Organizational Committee will review the draft annotated outline of the annual overview report of ACC for 1990, which will be submitted to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1991, through the Committee for Programme and Coordination. In addition, as requested by CPC, a prototype of the ACC annual overview report will be presented to the twenty-fifth series of Joint Meetings of CPC and ACC. It will include a model of information on the programmes and resources of organizations of the United Nations system which has been developed by CCSQ (PROG) and CCAQ (FB).

2. Meetings in 1990

22. At its meetings in October 1989 and February 1990, the Organizational Committee approved, on behalf of ACC, the convening in 1990 of a number of meetings within the ACC framework. At its present meeting, the Committee will consider further proposals for the convening of meetings in 1990 and for this purpose will have before it a note by the Chairman.